

HONORING MARGARET RESNICK
AS ILLINOIS PARKS AND RECREATION
ASSOCIATION'S PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Illinois Parks and Recreation Association's Professional of the Year, Margaret Resnick. The award is given to professionals working in parks and recreation who have had an impact on their communities. Margaret works with other civic leaders to provide cost-effective services for the community.

Since 2007, Margaret has led the Mundelein Parks and Recreation District as director. Her smart financial management and search for alternative funding and grants has allowed the Park District to thrive. Margaret has brought innovation and technological improvements to the programs and services in Mundelein. Due to her efforts, parks have expanded, and participation has increased.

Mr. Speaker, Margaret Resnick is an inspiring community leader who has been creative and practical in providing parks and recreation services to the residents of Mundelein, Illinois. I am proud to celebrate her as the Professional of the Year and look forward to her continued service and leadership in the community.

HONORING JAHNAVI MURTHY OF
SOUTH RIDING

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor Jahnvi Murthy of South Riding, a young student from my district who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in her community. The 2016 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state and the District of Columbia, has named Ms. Murthy as one of their top honorees in Virginia.

Ms. Murthy has earned recognition for her input in co-funding an organization with her brother called, "Feed Hungry People." After her work to begin this organization, "Feed Hungry People" has been able to raise \$24,000. Each month, this organization sends nonperishable meal packs to impoverished areas including Zambia, Panama, Haiti and the Philippines.

It is vital that we encourage the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individuals, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Ms. Murthy are inspiring examples to all of us.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards was created by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers the importance of

their contributions and to inspire other young people to follow their example.

I heartily applaud Ms. Murthy for her initiative in seeking to make our community a better place to live, and for the positive impact she has had on the lives of others. Her actions show that young Americans can—and do—play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

HONORING SERGEANT MARCUS
WRIGHT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable law enforcer, Sergeant Marcus Wright of Byram, Mississippi.

Sergeant Wright grew up in Morton, Mississippi. He graduated from Morton High School in 1994. He moved to Jackson, Mississippi and began his law enforcement career by attending the Jackson Police Training Academy from which he graduated with honors in 2001. After graduation, he continued with JPD as a Patrolman, was promoted to Detective in 2003 and began work in the Vice and Narcotics Unit. In 2004, he completed his training with the Federal Bureau of Investigation to become a Crisis/Hostage Negotiator. In 2005 he was selected to be part of the Dignitary Protection Team that protected the Mayor of the City of Jackson, Mississippi. Since 2011, he has proudly served with the Hinds County Sheriff's Office as a Sergeant, head of the Internal Affairs Division and now in the Patrol Division. Sergeant Wright has received extensive training during his career and has been awarded several commendations for his outstanding performance and dedication in the line of duty, and most recently receiving the Officer of the Year Award for 2014. He also serves as a Master Mason in the New Home Masonic Lodge Number 261.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sergeant Marcus Wright for his dedication to serving our great state of Mississippi.

IN RECOGNITION OF WENDY
MACKENZIE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Wendy Mackenzie, who has dedicated much of her professional life to supporting women's right to choose and electing more pro-choice women to office. Tonight she is being honored for her work by Eleanor's Legacy, an extraordinary organization that is dedicated to electing pro-choice Democratic women in New York State. Her commitment, enthusiasm, and generous use of personal resources have helped countless women candidates succeed. She has helped women break barriers, persevere and make a difference.

Ms. Mackenzie is a public affairs and public relations consultant. In this role, she has worked with clients as diverse as Chemical Bank, community development groups, arts organizations, and Planned Parenthood.

Ms. Mackenzie serves as Executive Director of New York ChoicePac, a bi-partisan pro-choice committee for New York State, which has distributed over a quarter of a million dollars to over 70 candidates in less than 10 years.

For almost ten years, Ms. Mackenzie headed the New York office for the non-partisan Women's Campaign Fund (WCF), which works to elect women who are dedicated to working together and forging solutions. WCF supports candidates running at every level, from the school board to Congress. For two years she served as National Co-Chair for WCF. Currently, she is Co-Chair of WCF's Women's Campaign Research Fund.

Ms. Mackenzie currently serves as a Vice-Chair of the Board of Planned Parenthood of New York City (PPNYC), and Chair of PPNYC's Public Affairs Committee. She joined the board in 1991 and served as Board Chair from 1998–2000.

Ms. Mackenzie is also a member of the Advisory Committee of the New York Women's Foundation. She also serves on the Board of Advocates for the Citizens' Committee for Children of New York and on the board of Family Planning Advocates in Albany. Ms. Mackenzie has also worked with Family Planning Advocates NARAL Pro-Choice America and the NARAL Pro-Choice America Foundation. Ms. Mackenzie is a Director at the Vira I. Heinz Endowment, which supports a wide variety of organizations devoted to arts and culture; children, youth and families; economic opportunity; education; and the environment.

Born in London, Ms. Mackenzie graduated from Radcliffe College in 1955, attended Carnegie Tech (now Carnegie Mellon) Drama School, and studied anthropology at Columbia University. While bringing up her two children, she worked in the theatre as an actress, executive assistant and casting director.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the extraordinary work of Wendy Mackenzie, a New York woman who makes a difference.

HONORING ANNABELLE SCOUT
GUNASEKARA

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to congratulate my Chief of Staff, Surya Gunasekara and his wife Mandy, on the birth of their daughter, Annabelle Scout Gunasekara. She was born at 11:16 a.m., on February 18, 2016 in Washington, DC. I would also like to congratulate their son, Rico Rhyder Gunasekara, on becoming a big brother who welcomed his baby sister to the world with an enthusiastic Ole Miss cheer, "Hotty Toddy."

Annabelle Scout is 8 pounds and 3 ounces of pride and joy to her loving grandparents, Ada and Michael McGrevey of Decatur, Mississippi, and Brett and Susanne Conrad of Santa Monica, California.